

# DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES, SOUTH-SOUTH SOLUTIONS

E-newsletter of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation in UNDP



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## 1) Mobile Phone Shopping to Create Efficient Markets across Borders

An anticipated game-changing revolution in African trading set for 2013 is getting one innovative business very excited.

Southern African mobile phone "m-commerce" pioneer moWoza ([mowoza.com](http://mowoza.com)) is developing new ways of selling services and products through mobile phones and developing the networks and infrastructure to capitalize on coming changes in Africa as cross-border trade is liberalized.

It is already selling food packages containing well-known South African brands that can be ordered by migrants on their mobile phones and then delivered to recipients – family or friends – even in remote and hard-to-reach communities. The service is currently operating between Mozambique and South Africa – the two countries share a border.

The start-up hopes to help the millions of migrant workers and small traders who contribute to the constant flow of trade and wealth between states in Africa. These people face many obstacles, including bureaucratic red tape, corruption and harassment.

Cross-border trade by economic migrants is largely informal. moWoza hopes to make it formal and efficient while reducing exploitation of migrants and corrupt practices by officials. By providing an easy-to-use mobile phone service, it hopes to build trust with these transactions.

Africa is a market of a billion people worth US \$2 trillion in trade and business, but the World Bank estimates the continent is losing billions of dollars in potential earnings because of high trade barriers. It found that it is easier for African countries to trade with the rest of the world than with other African countries.

The continent's leaders are calling for a continent-wide free trade area by 2017.

Studies by the World Bank and others have repeatedly shown that inefficient transport and trade barriers translate into higher prices of goods for consumers as importers pass along high transport costs to consumers. Food prices remain extremely high in Africa – almost 25 per cent higher than they were in 2006, according to the World Bank. In developing countries, people normally spend up to 80 per cent of their incomes on food.

With the world in the grip of an ongoing food crisis brought about by multiple factors – including growing populations, environmental challenges such as drought and soil depletion, declining rural economies, inefficient farming methods and commodity speculation – measures that increase efficiencies and trade can be a powerful counterweight and help drive prices back down again.

moWoza – mo stands for mobile and Woza is a Zulu word meaning running – sells a range of products including basic foodstuffs to a target market of cross-border migrants in Southern Africa. moWoza estimates there are 7 million migrant and cross-border shoppers in South Africa alone, and it's building a network reaching into remote communities to deliver packages ordered through its m-commerce service on mobile phones.

moWoza aims to open up access to products in these underserved markets.

### In this issue:

[Mobile Phone Shopping to Create Efficient Markets across Borders](#)  
[Egyptian Youth Turns Plastic Waste into Fuel](#)  
[Shopping and Flying in Africa's Boom Towns](#)  
[Teenager Uses Technology to Protect Livestock from Lions](#)

### Featured links:

[Babajob.com](http://Babajob.com)  
[Equator Initiative](#)  
[Kiva.org](http://Kiva.org)  
[SSC Website](#)  
[FUNDING](#)

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[Window on the World](#)  
[Upcoming Events](#)  
[Awards and Funding](#)  
[Training and Job Opportunities](#)  
[Past Issues](#)

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moWoza is trying to position itself for the new opportunities that will arise when, in 2013, 23 African borders open for regional trade, creating a vast trading area stretching from Cairo in Egypt to Cape Town in South Africa. moWoza wants to be the m-commerce brand that people will turn to. It is chasing customer markets that include African economic migrants, small and medium-sized enterprises doing cross border trade, and the 30 million African economic migrants who are supporting family back in their home countries.

Founder Suzana Moreira says the company carried out extensive research in South Africa, Mozambique, Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Kenya before launching its first trial runs between South Africa and Mozambique.

"We ran several pilots to determine the most efficient way to provide access to packages for the beneficiaries and developed the necessary technology to enable our customers (migrants) to place orders simply. We are now operating between Johannesburg and Maputo," she said.

Officially incorporated in 2009, moWoza did not get up and running until 2010.

Once a customer has experienced a delivery from moWoza, they are introduced to other services like banking or how to download information from the Internet. Many customers are only just learning about the resources available online.

"We look forward to the opening up of cross border trade as our findings suggest that the liberalization and facilitation of the cross-border trade initiative will increase demand for all products and services from South Africa to neighbouring countries," Moreira said. "South Africa offers an extensive range of products compared to the choice of products that are offered in many of the neighbouring countries.

"The structures and networks that compel migrants to come to South Africa are well established," she explained. "The social networks encourage the movement of labour. Hundreds of thousands of male migrants from the Southern African Development Community, SADC (<http://www.sadc.int/>), countries have spent the greater parts of their working lives in South Africa. They in turn had parents or grandparents who had worked in South Africa, while providing a lifeline to the family in the home country.

"This practice will continue: mobile money to a degree will facilitate this lifeline but as long as products can be sourced cheaper in South Africa, the demand for South African products will continue."

The people behind moWoza sound like business radicals, proclaiming that traditional 'bricks and mortar' businesses will be replaced in a shopping revolution by WAP (wireless application protocol) and SMS (short message service) business platforms operating on mobile phones.

Apart from developing the m-commerce business, moWoza aspires to become a well-known brand for the migrant community.

"Becoming a lifestyle brand is a bold statement on our part," Moreira said. "However, this goal reflects a measure of success and would demonstrate that we are delivering value to our customers (migrants and micro-merchants) and their beneficiaries."

The moWoza brand hopes to reflect the lives of their customers and be all about embracing fluidity and mobility.

"As our primary customers are transnational and highly mobile (immigrants with a dual existence), we would like moWoza to represent mobility and fluidity (attune to anytime, anywhere, always)," she said.

"Their greatest aspiration is an improved livelihood and a simplification of the rigours of grass-roots existence."

moWoza foresees big changes coming for the economies of the African countries affected by the opening up of regional trade. According to its website: "New markets and trading routes will mushroom, traditional value chains will be replaced with ICT [information and communications technology] innovations; a savvy and younger consumer will emerge who will value convenience and simplicity."

For users, moWoza's service works like this: A customer uses a mobile phone to make a purchase. An agent helps with selecting the right package and delivery options. When the payment is made, an SMS mobile receipt - a so-called m-receipt - is sent to the customer. The person who will be receiving the parcel will also receive a text message. During the delivery process, 'm-updates' are sent on progress to both parties and when the parcel is finally delivered, a final notification is sent of delivery.

Special drop-off points have been set up in countries where the service is available and there is follow-up contact with the customer to determine their continuing needs.

MoWoza hires people from the communities they operate in as agents. An agent works with the customer to show how the Internet works on mobile phones and to improve their literacy skills.

Product parcels are selected to meet the World Health Organization (WHO) nutritional guidelines. The packages are selected based on focus groups and customer feedback.

With offices in South Africa and the United Kingdom, moWoza is looking forward to expanding what it can offer.

"We will continue to innovate, and deliver services that improve the livelihoods of our target market and their beneficiaries," Moreira said. "We will extend our packages to include seeds and other agricultural products, school and educational materials, and health products. As we grow, our services will extend to digital (virtual) goods, e.g. insurance products specifically targeting the underserved communities."

#### **LINKS:**

- 1) A downloadable map showing border delays, bribes and barriers impeding cross-border trade. **Website:** <http://www.borderlesswa.com/resources/18th-usaid-uemoa-road-governance-map>
- 2) Borderless Alliance: Removing Trade Barriers in West Africa: Borderless is a vision for competitive trade in West Africa - of eliminating barriers to trade. Streamlining procedures, attacking corruption and facilitating the movement of people and goods will lower costs. Consequently, businesses will expand, create jobs and generate more revenue for government and more income for people. **Website:** <http://www.borderlesswa.com/>
- 3) Borderless Conference 2013 and 2014: Call for proposals: The Borderless Alliance Secretariat announces a call for proposals to host the 2013 annual Borderless Conference. Borderless Conference 2013 will be the second transport and trade annual conference in West Africa, and will bring together more than 300 stakeholders from around the world to discuss efficiency in logistics, using data for decision making and advocacy. **Website:** <http://www.borderlesswa.com/news/borderless-conference-2013-2014-call-proposals>
- 4) West Africa Trade Hub: **Website:** [www.watradehub.com](http://www.watradehub.com)
- 5) Trade Mark East Africa: Supporting East African Integration: Through TradeMark East Africa, a cost-effective regional aid delivery mechanism has been established that can focus on building long-term East African capacity. TradeMark East Africa provides a durable platform for scaling-up of Aid For Trade to East Africa. **Website:** <http://www.trademarka.com/home/>
- 6) Geneva Trade and Development Forum. **Website:** <http://www.gtdforum.org/>
- 7) Spaza News: The newspaper aimed at spaza shop owners seeking to connect them. **Website:** <http://www.spazanews.co.za/>
- 8) Africa Trade Gateway: **Website:** <https://www.africatradegateway.com/>
- 9) Cross Border Trade Desk: This website is a 'resource' to help cross border traders in Eastern and Southern Africa to find an association near to them, to voice their opinions and explain what COMESA is doing in improving conditions for small-scale cross border traders. **Website:** <http://www.cbtcomesa.com/>
- 10) Defragmenting Africa website including the report De-Fragmenting Africa: Deepening Regional Trade Integration in Goods and Services by the World Bank. **Website:** <http://tinyurl.com/cta3ykf>

## **2) Egyptian Youth Turns Plastic Waste into Fuel**

The challenge of finding alternate fuel sources is capturing the imagination of innovators across the global South. As the world's population increases - it recently reached 7 billion (UN) - and the number of people seeking a better life grows in turn, the energy demands on the planet are pushing up competition for existing conventional fuel sources.

The modern lifestyle that many aspire to requires energy, whether it's using electronic products which consume large quantities of electricity, driving personal vehicles or living in homes that are artificially heated and cooled.

This energy hunger has opened up a whole new market demand that needs to be met. The scale of this market is enormous, but the solutions are ultimately limited only by people's imaginations.

An award-winning Egyptian teenage scientist is capturing attention for the imaginative solution of turning waste plastic into biofuel, sparking interest in the creation of a whole new source of wealth for her country.

Sixteen-year-old Azza Abdel Hamid Faiad (<http://tinyurl.com/dysemjg>) has found a new way to take waste plastic and break it down into fuel. She has discovered aluminosilicate minerals (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aluminosilicate>) - which contain aluminium, silicon and oxygen and are found in

clays - can break down the polymers that make up plastic (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polymer>) to produce the gases methane, propane and ethane, all of which can be turned into ethanol (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethanol>), which is useful as a biofuel.

According to Inhabitat ([inhabitat.com](http://inhabitat.com)), a website dedicated to "green design, innovation, and the future of clean technology," her solution could turn the country's annual consumption of 1 million tonnes of plastic into a year's supply of biofuel worth US \$78 million.

Clever innovators are sitting on a goldmine if they can come up with renewable energy solutions. The U.S. Army alone is looking to spend US \$7 billion on renewable energy sources and is accepting bids from the private sector to meet its needs (<http://www.forbes.com/sites/toddwoody/2012/08/08/u-s-army-opens-bids-to-buy-7-billion-in-renewable-energy/>). The army is looking to sign contracts stretching up to 30 years for buying electricity generated by solar, wind, geothermal and biomass projects.

The options are numerous for renewable energy - from solar power to wind power to algae as a source of biofuels (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biofuel>). The challenge is to find a fuel source that is plentiful, renewable, and crucially, doesn't harm other needs.

Using biofuel as a replacement for conventional petroleum-based fuels like gasoline and diesel appears to be an attractive solution, but it can lead to other problems. Some people are using used cooking oils to convert into biodiesels, but sometimes there is not enough used cooking oil to meet demand. In short, a constant supply source is required to meet ever-increasing energy demand.

A famous example of where the use of renewable plant-based fuel sources can go wrong is the case of corn. The widespread use of corn as a source for biofuels - rather than for animal feed or human food - has led to accusations this is contributing to the global food crisis. The current drought in the United States is damaging corn crops and only making this problem more acute. The U.S. is the world's largest producer of corn (US Department of Agriculture) and much of it is used as livestock feed around the world.

Faiad's solution is appealing because the fuel does not come from biomass - derived from plant matter - but turns waste plastic into the raw material for biofuel.

Plastic waste is a common byproduct of modern life. Plastic is used extensively in packaging, bottles, bags and electronic products. It fills up landfill sites and is a blight on the landscape in many countries. It is also a product made from petrochemicals (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plastic>), the very source of conventional fuel used by most of the world's vehicles.

Breaking down waste plastic from bottles, packaging and other products into what is called 'biofuel feedstock' - the substance necessary to start the creation of biofuel - requires a means to turn the plastic into fuel.

According to Green Prophet ([greenprophet.com](http://greenprophet.com)), Faiad believes her technological breakthrough "can provide an economically efficient method for production of hydrocarbon fuel namely: cracked naphtha ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petroleum\\_naphtha](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petroleum_naphtha)) of about 40,000 tons per year and hydrocarbon gases of about 138,000 tons per year equivalent to US \$78 million."

This could be a big economic boost to Egypt's economy, simultaneously reducing dependence on petroleum-based fuels and creating a new source of income. Egypt's economy has been hit hard since the start of the Arab Spring ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arab\\_Spring](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arab_Spring)). The number of tourists fell 33 per cent in 2011 and revenue dropped by US \$3.7 billion from 2010 (Egyptian Tourism Minister). In 2009 about 12.5 million tourists visited Egypt, bringing revenue of US \$10.8 billion. The tourism sector is one of the country's top sources of foreign revenue, accounting for more than 11 per cent of GDP, and offers jobs in a country beset by high unemployment - for Egypt, tourism makes up 11 per cent of its GDP (gross domestic product) (Reuters).

Faiad's innovation has not gone unnoticed. She received the European Fusion Development Agreement award (<http://www.efda.org/>) at the 2011 23rd European Union Contest for Young Scientists ([http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index_en.cfm)). She is also receiving interest from the Egyptian Petroleum Research Institute (<http://www.epri.sci.eg/>), according to Inhabitat.

Ambitious Faiad is also seeking to take ownership of her innovation by getting a patent from the Egyptian Patent Office (<http://www.egypo.gov.eg/english/default.htm>).

## **LINKS:**

1) Biofuel: A website with a good overview of biofuel options and directions on how to make biofuel. **Website:** <http://biofuel.org.uk/>

2) Biogasmax: Biogas Highway - waste to energy concept, 18-19 September in Gothenburg, Sweden. Participate in an intensive two-day programme with complete focus on biogas at the Water and Wastewater Fair. Meet with exhibiting Swedish biogas companies and companies within the water and wastewater sectors. Participate at the

"International biogas business opportunities" seminar and learn more about biogas concepts and strategies.  
**Website:** <http://www.biogasmax.eu/>

3) New Techniques Create Butanol, A Superior Biofuel: A story from Science Daily about new techniques to produce a biofuel superior to ethanol. **Website:**  
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/01/080123153142.htm>

4) Biofuels Digest: The Digest covers producer news, research, policy, policymakers, conferences, fleets and financial news. **Website:** <http://www.biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/>

### 3) Shopping and Flying in Africa's Boom Towns

As economies across Africa grow, the continent still has a long way to go to create infrastructure to match people's rising expectations of what a modern, prosperous life looks like.

Africa's current economic growth has mainly been driven by commodities and oil and gas exports. Critics say this boom has failed to bring tangible benefits to many of Africa's poor, who feel left out of the prosperity.

Trade has been flourishing not only because of exports to traditional markets in Europe and North America but also because of explosive growth in trade and investment between China and Africa.

Two trends now underway are set to transform people's wealth and living standards despite the many obstacles caused by the inequalities of current economic growth. The first is the rise and rise of retail shopping options looking to meet a strong appetite for consumer goods. And the second is the expansion of flying options on a continent notorious for its poor air links. Increasing investment in retail and flight networks will be a source of jobs, careers and wealth for the coming decade.

The aviation sector supports 6.7 million jobs on the continent, according to TradeMark Southern Africa (<http://www.trademarksa.org>), and makes a US \$67.8 billion contribution to Africa's gross domestic product (GDP).

But the woeful state of Africa's air networks means that it is often cheaper for people to fly to other parts of Africa via European airports. And Africa has a long way to go to match air safety standards found elsewhere: there was one accident for every 305,000 flights involving Western-built jets in Africa last year (IATA) - nine times the global average.

But Africa is now receiving the attention of the global airline industry. The Abuja Declaration (<http://nigerianaviationnews.blogspot.co.uk/2012/07/aviation-safety-in-africa-abuja.html>) aims to bring the African accident rate in line with the global average by 2015. And it is hoped the added competition and introduction of more global players will also raise standards and make flying in Africa safer, more convenient and cheaper.

The experience of Europe and North America shows that increased air traffic brings a boost to economic growth. With more frequent, safer and more reliable air routes, business people will be able to move around and strike deals, tourists can get around and traders can cross borders without the hassle of navigating poor road networks.

Airlines are lining up to compete on improving air links in Africa to capitalize on rising incomes and economic dynamism.

The competition to serve the air passengers has heated up with the announcement of numerous new airlines, as well as well-established global carriers making plans to expand routes across Africa.

Kenya Airways (<http://www.kenya-airways.com/>) has pledged to reach all of Africa's countries by 2017 while also launching its own budget airline called Jambo Jet (<http://www.ventures-africa.com/2012/06/kenya-airways-to-launch-low-cost-airline-as-it-prepares-for-competition/>).

State-owned South African Airways (SAA) (<http://www.flysaa.com/gb/en/>) is also starting to expand its network to include every capital city in Africa. SAA will start by adding flights to Ivory Coast and the Democratic Republic of Congo, making it able to serve 26 African destinations. In the short term, it is doing this by halting flights between Cape Town and London, leaving that route to Virgin Atlantic and British Airways.

Operating out of bases in Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana and Angola, a new African discount airline, FastJet (<http://www.fastjet.com/>) - with EasyJet (<http://www.easyjet.com/en>) founder Stelios Haji-Ioannou as its backer - is taking over Fly540 (<http://www.fly540.com/>) and adding 15 leased Airbus aircraft. It will launch flights to Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania and Angola. According to Kenya's Nation newspaper, the plan is to replicate the success of EasyJet connecting Europe and North Africa with cheap flights in sub-Saharan Africa.

Analysts believe the entry of an aggressive and experienced player like Haji-loannou will shake up competition within African aviation.

Other global players lining up to expand in Africa include Emirates, Etihad, Qatar Airways, Turkish Airlines and Korea Air, which has already started flying between South Korea and Kenya's capital, Nairobi. This is being seen as a boost to the trade in electronics goods between the two countries.

The added excitement in the African air industry has also prompted Air Uganda (<http://www.air-uganda.com/>) and RwandaAir (<http://www.rwandair.com/>) to increase their destinations.

Qatar Airways (<http://www.qatarairways.com/uk/en/homepage.page>) will start flying in November 2012 to Maputo, Mozambique three times a week, increasing to 20 the number of destinations the airline serves, according to the Nation.

And while Emirates has a 41 per cent share of the African market, African player Ethiopian Airlines (<http://www.flyethiopian.com/en/default.aspx>) ambitiously wants to become Africa's largest airline by 2025.

For shoppers, West Africa is experiencing a boom in new retail spaces being developed, according to a report from Euromonitor International (<http://www.euromonitor.com>) (<http://www.howwemadeitinafrica.com/ghana-%E2%80%93-african-new-retail-hotspot/18544/>). The advantages of creating and developing modern retail spaces are numerous: hygienic shopping environments with greater safety and security attract multinational and global brands, which tend to create lots of long-term jobs.

Euromonitor International has identified Ghana as the next hotspot for retailers. The country is seen to have the right business environment in place that is attractive to foreign investors. It also has the right mix of political stability, cultural tolerance and rising prosperity.

The country is now being seen as the gateway to West Africa's market of 250 million consumers. Ghana is able to leverage its position as a gateway into landlocked nations and on its strong ties with English-speaking powerhouses like Britain and the United States.

On top of these strategic advantages, the country has focused on upgrading retail spaces in the capital, Accra. The Accra Mall (<http://www.accramall.com/>), opened in 2007, is considered the most modern shopping mall in Ghana.

Euromonitor found Ghana's retail industry grew by 14 per cent between 2006 and 2011.

Euromonitor found companies like multinational Unilever and PZ Cussons believed basing their operations in Ghana was a big advantage.

"The presence of such manufacturers provides a good opportunity for retailers as they can source these manufacturers' products cheaper locally rather than importing them," it said.

Euromonitor identified three other African countries as potential retail marketplaces. This includes Zambia, a potential agribusiness powerhouse. It is already developing a strong reputation in beef through its Zambeef (<http://www.zambeefplc.com/>) operation. South African companies have done well in Zambia, including Shoprite, Pick n Pay, Mr Price and the Foschini Group. Much of the action is around the capital, Lusaka.

Rwanda is known for its ease of doing business and there is activity going on in residential areas, roads, hotels, offices and retail spaces. The capital, Kigali, has a new modern, shopping mall, The Union Trade Centre, with a 24-hour store.

Angola has been benefiting from peace since the end of its civil war in 2002. Foreign companies have been attracted to Angola from South Africa, Portugal and Brazil. The Belas Shopping Mall (<http://belasshopping.com/website/>) opened in 2007 in the capital, Luanda, followed by the Ginga Shopping Mall on the city's outskirts in 2011.

#### **LINKS:**

1) How we made it in Africa: A great website packed with inspirational people and stories on business success in Africa. **Website:** <http://www.howwemadeitinafrica.com/>

## **4) Teenager Uses Technology to Protect Livestock from Lions**

In Kenya, a teenage Maasai ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maasai\\_people](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maasai_people)) inventor has developed a way to chase lions away from livestock that doesn't harm the lions. It is a common practice to kill lions when they threaten or kill livestock, and this has led to a precipitous drop in the local lion population at Nairobi National Park ([http://www.kws.org/parks/parks\\_reserves/NANP.html/](http://www.kws.org/parks/parks_reserves/NANP.html/)), near the country's capital, Nairobi. Lions are a significant tourist attraction for Kenya and the population decline is a threat to the future of the tourist industry.



Trying to find the right balance between livestock and wild animals is a problem across the global South. As populations rise, and the number of animals kept for domestic food markets increases, so does conflict between farmers and predatory wild animals looking for an easy meal. And there is no more tempting easy meal than domesticated animals tamed and kept in herds.

According to Reuters, 13-year-old Richard Turere has developed a system of flashing lights to scare off lions at night. The LED (light-emitting diode) ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light-emitting\\_diode](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light-emitting_diode)) bulbs were gathered from broken flashlights. Turere then wired them to a solar-powered car battery used to power the family's TV. Turere has placed the lights on poles surrounding the enclosure where the cattle stay at night. "Lions were eating our cattle at night, which made me very annoyed," he told Reuters. "And I thought that I have to come up with an idea of making bulbs. Because I knew that the lions were afraid of something moving. "When someone wakes up at night and moves with a torch, they are afraid. So I made the bulbs which flash at night and keep away lions."

Nairobi National Park is wild and unfenced, leaving lions free to wander on to farmland. Tragically for the lions, increasing numbers are being killed by farmers protecting herds. Conservationists say Kenya's lion population has plummeted from 15,000 to just 2,000 in a decade. Since October 2011, Wildlife Direct (<http://wildlifedirect.org/>) has documented 169 killings of livestock by lions in the location near Turere's farm.

Kenya depends heavily on tourism to the national parks where people want to see lions. Kenya has been enjoying significant growth in tourism and has the goal of reaching 2 million international tourists in 2012 (Kenyan Ministry of Tourism). Earnings from international tourism are the second largest source of foreign exchange for the country and the services sector - 63 per cent of GDP (gross domestic product) - is dominated by tourism (Brand Kenya). So-called 'photo safaris' to the country's national parks and game preserves are the main attraction for international tourists.

But farmers need to have their herds protected since livestock are a critical income source for them, as well as a food source for the country. Cattle herding has long been an important income source and livelihood for the Maasai people.

According to conservationist Dr. Paula Kahumbu, executive director of Wildlife Direct, other herding families would like Richard to set up the light system on their farms too.

Since Richard installed the lights, his family has not lost any cattle to lions. This bright idea has also dramatically altered Turere's life. The attention he has received for the invention has led to him being funded by local environment groups to attend a prestigious private school, Brookhouse International School (<http://www.brookhouse.ac.ke/>) in Nairobi. Things are truly looking bright for Turere!

#### LINKS:

1) Experience Kenya: The web portal packed with information on Kenyan tourist attractions and investment opportunities. **Website:** <http://www.experiencekenya.co.ke/index.php>

2) Brand Kenya: The official Brand Kenya website shows how the country is weaving together all things Kenyan to create a strong global brand for the country. **Website:** <http://brandkenya.co.ke/>

## WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Check out our website archive: [southerninnovator.org](http://southerninnovator.org)

Southern Innovator (ISSN 2222-9280) magazine's second issue is now online and print copies are available for distribution. The second issue's theme is youth and entrepreneurship. View the issue online here: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/86451057/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-2>.



Contact us about opportunities to sponsor this issue or any future issues and we can send you more information on how it works.

Issue 3, on agribusiness and food security, is now ready and will be published shortly. Issues 4 and 5 are also in the works for 2012. Please contact the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of Southern Innovator (<http://ssc.undp.org/content/ssc.html>).

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Issue 1 of Southern Innovator was called "...a terrific tour de force of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space..."

Also check out our South-South Expo: 2012's Expo will be in Vienna, Austria: [www.southsouthexpo.org](http://www.southsouthexpo.org)

Did you know? The Development Challenges, South-South Solutions e-newsletter reaches readers around the world every month. It has been published regularly since 2006. The new magazine, Southern Innovator, also has a global distribution. For example, Issue 2 is being distributed to schools throughout Africa. Don't pass on this opportunity to reach a global audience of readers, many of whom are on the cutting edge of innovation in the global South, or are about to become the next generation's innovators, pioneers and entrepreneurs. **Email:** [developmentchallenges@googlemail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com)

## **BOOKS**

*The New Harvest: Agricultural Innovation in Africa* by Calestous Juma, Publisher: Oxford University Press.

**Website:** [http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new\\_harvest.html](http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new_harvest.html)

*The Coming Prosperity* by Philip Auerwald, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** <http://auerswald.org/>

*The Landgrabbers* by Fred Pearce, Publisher: Eden Project Books. **Website:**

<http://www.randomhouse.co.uk/editions/9781905811731>

*The Revenge of Geography* by Robert D. Kaplan, Publisher: Random House. **Website:**

<http://www.randomhouse.com/book/209683/the-revenge-of-geography-by-robert-d-kaplan>

*Need, Speed and Greed: How the New Rules of Innovation Can Transform Businesses, Propel Nations to Greatness, and Tame the World's Most Wicked Problems* by Vijay Vaitheeswaran, Publisher: HarperBusiness.

**Website:** [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

*Emerging Economies: The Geopolitics of the BRICS Nations* Publisher: Stratfor. They make up nearly half the world's population and wield significant influence within their respective regions. Combined, their GDPs are not too far behind that of the United States. Understand the geopolitics of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. **Website:** [www.stratfor.com](http://www.stratfor.com)

*China's Regulatory State: A New Strategy for Globalization* by Roselyn Hsueh, Publisher: Cornell University Press.

**Website:** [www.cornellpress.cornell.edu](http://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu)

*Living in the Endless City* edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic, Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. *Living in the Endless City* depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures. **Website:** <http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city/>



*Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism* by Chandran Nair, Publisher: Infinite Ideas. **Website:** [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

*World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It* by Pankaj Ghemawa, Publisher: Harvard Business School Press. **Website:** [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

*The China Miracle: Development Strategy and Economic Reform* by Justin Yifu Lin, Publisher: The Chinese University Press. **Website:** [www.eurospanbookstore.com](http://www.eurospanbookstore.com)

*The End of Cheap China: Economic and Cultural Trends that will Disrupt the World* by Shaun Rein, Publisher: John Wiley and Sons. **Website:** [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

*Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance* by David McNally, Publisher: PM Press. *Global Slump* analyzes the global financial meltdown as the first systemic crisis of the neoliberal stage of capitalism. It argues that – far from having ended – the crisis has ushered in a whole period of worldwide economic and political turbulence. In developing an account of the crisis as rooted in fundamental features of capitalism, *Global Slump* challenges the view that its source lies in financial deregulation. **Website:** [https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product\\_detail&p=271](https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product_detail&p=271)

*Creative Ecologies: Where Thinking is a Proper Job* by John Howkins, Publisher: UQP. **Website:** [www.creativeeconomy.com/think.htm](http://www.creativeeconomy.com/think.htm)

*Breakout Nations* by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Penguin. *Breakout Nations* offers journeys through more than two dozen of the most interesting economies in the emerging world. **Website:** <http://breakoutnations.com/>

*Light Manufacturing in Africa* by Hinh T. Dinh et al, Publisher: World Bank. This book examines how light manufacturing can offer a viable solution for sub-Saharan Africa's need for structural transformation and productive job creation, given its potential competitiveness based on low wage costs and an abundance of natural resources that supply raw materials needed for industries. **Website:** <http://issuu.com/world.bank.publications/docs/9780821389614>

*Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty* by Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson, Publisher: Profile Books. **Website:** [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

*Arrival City* by Doug Saunders, Publisher: Pantheon. A third of humanity is on the move. History's largest migration is creating new urban spaces that are this century's focal points of conflict and change — centres of febrile settlement that will reshape our cities and reconfigure our economies. **Website:** <http://arrivalcity.net/>

*China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit?* by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development. **Website:** [www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats New/Reports/Kinarapport\\_A4.pdf](http://www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats%20New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf)

*Globalization and Competition: Why Some Emergent Countries Succeed while Others Fall Behind* by Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, Publisher: Cambridge University Press. **Website:** [www.networkideas.org/book/jan2010/bk12\\_GACL.htm](http://www.networkideas.org/book/jan2010/bk12_GACL.htm)

*State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development* Publisher: Making Cents International. This practical resource features learning from over 80 leading organizations that are working around the world to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Topics include youth enterprise development; workforce development; youth-inclusive financial services; working with adolescent girls and young women; and monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. **Website:** [www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp](http://www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp)

*Vitamin Green: The Definitive Guide to the World of Contemporary Sustainable Design: Features 100 Innovative Projects from Around the World* by editors of Phaidon Press, Publisher: Phaidon Press. **Website:** <http://uk.phaidon.com/store/architecture/vitamin-green-9780714862293/>

## **Papers and Reports**

*African Economic Outlook 2012: Promoting Youth Employment* Publisher: Various. With almost 200 million people aged between 15 and 24, Africa has the youngest population in the world. This number will double by 2045. Many jobs have been created over the last decade, but the pace needs to accelerate significantly to match the demand of Africa's next generations. **Website:** <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/>

*State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life* Publisher: UNHABITAT. **Website:** [www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011](http://www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011)

*Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010* Publisher: Commission for Africa **Website:** [www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report](http://www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report)

*World Economic Outlook Update: Restoring Confidence without Harming Recovery* Publisher: IMF. **Website:** [www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2010/update/02/index.htm](http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2010/update/02/index.htm)

*Empowering People and Transforming Society: The World Economic Forum's Technology Pioneers 2011* Publisher: World Economic Forum. **Website:** [www.scribd.com/doc/35953976/Technology-Pioneers-2011](http://www.scribd.com/doc/35953976/Technology-Pioneers-2011)

*The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries* Publisher: OECD. **Website:** [www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmp8lncrns-en](http://www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmp8lncrns-en) (PDF - 2.09 mb)

*The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa* by Hany Besada, Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development. **Website:** [http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper\\_40-web.pdf](http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf)

*Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well* Emerging economies decouple from the US, come closer to Europe. **Website:** <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html>

*The Global Financial Crisis and Africa's "Immiserizing Wealth"* Research Brief, United Nations University, Number 1 2010. **Website:** [www.unu.edu/publications/briefs/policy-briefs/2010/UNU\\_ResearchBrief\\_10-01.pdf](http://www.unu.edu/publications/briefs/policy-briefs/2010/UNU_ResearchBrief_10-01.pdf)

*Africa begins to make poverty history: US economists challenge conventional view that the continent is a basket case* **Website:** [www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history](http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history)

## New Magazine

**African Innovator Magazine has launched:** AIM showcases innovative technology solutions to business challenges on the continent. **Website:** <http://www.africaninnovatormagazine.com/>

## On the Web

### Blogs and Websites

**African Robotics Network:** The African Robotics Network (AFRON) is a community of institutions, organizations and individuals engaged in robotics in Africa. AFRON seeks to promote communication and collaborations that will enhance robotics-related education, research and industry on the continent. To achieve this, AFRON organizes projects, meetings and events in Africa at robotics and automation conferences abroad. **Website:** <http://robotics-africa.org/>

**Polis:** A collaborative blog about cities around the globe. **Website:** <http://www.thepolisblog.org/2012/03/coca-cola-in-africa.html>

**mDirectory:** The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides. **Website:** <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

**Global Development:** Launched in September 2010, this website from the Guardian newspaper tracks progress on the MDGs, encourages debate on its blogs, offers a rich store of datasets from around the world, and features monthly podcasts and resources for schools. **Website:** [www.guardian.co.uk/global-development](http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development)

### **Latameconomy Website Launches**

Latameconomy.org is the latest evolution of the annual Latin American Economic Outlook report, essentially bringing its trusted, high quality content into the digital age. Its wide country coverage and methods of analysis are essential for anyone seeking to understand the economic, social and political developments of Latin American countries.

**Website:** [www.latameconomy.org/en/](http://www.latameconomy.org/en/)

### **International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs)**

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development.

**Website:** [www.networkideas.org/](http://www.networkideas.org/)

### **OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website**

The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries. But unemployment is likely to remain high and much still needs to be done to underpin a durable recovery. This website will track the recovery.

**Website:** [http://www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_201185\\_41707672\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en_2649_201185_41707672_1_1_1_1,00.html)

**The Global Urbanist:** News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment and international. **Website:** [globalurbanist.com](http://globalurbanist.com)

**ICT Update:** A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. **Website:** <http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29%56>

**Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program** **Website:** The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services. **Website:** [yfslink.org](http://yfslink.org)

*Triple Crisis Blog: Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment* **Website:** <http://triplecrisis.com/>

**Full Disclosure:** The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community. **Website:** [www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure](http://www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure)

**Africa Portal:** An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent. **Website:** [africaportal.org](http://africaportal.org)

**African Economic Outlook:** A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels. **Website:** [africaneconomicoutlook.org/en](http://africaneconomicoutlook.org/en)

**Africa Renewal:** The *Africa Renewal* information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today. **Website:** [www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/](http://www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/)

### **Timbuktu Chronicles: A blog by Emeka Okafor**

With "a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities."

**Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com/>

**AfriGadget:** AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions. **Website:** [afrigadget.com](http://afrigadget.com)

### **Interesting Blogger**

**Emeka Okafor, Timbuktu Chronicles:** Emeka Okafor is an entrepreneur and venture catalyst who lives in New York City. He is the curator of Maker Faire Africa. He was the director for TED Global 2007 that took place in Arusha, Tanzania. In addition he is a member of the TED fellowship team. His interests include sustainable technologies in the developing world and paradigm-breaking technologies in general. His blog, Timbuktu Chronicles, seeks to spur dialogue in areas of entrepreneurship, technology and the scientific method as it impacts Africa. **Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.co.uk/>

## **Notable Website**

**African Brains:** The Home of Intelligent Networking: African Brains - for forward thinking, intelligent Africans to network and propose new ideas and technologies to the world. **Website:** [africanbrains.net](http://africanbrains.net)

**Arab Brains:** The Home of Intelligent Networking: Arab Brains has been established to connect innovative Arabs across the Arab World and beyond. **Website:** <http://arabbrains.com/>

## **Social Media**

### **Africa Entrepreneurship Platform**

This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas.

**Website:** [www.sacca.biz](http://www.sacca.biz)

**AfriGadget on Facebook:** 'Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity': **Website:** [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579)

## **Start-up Funding**

**Hubs!:** They are sprouting up all over the place and now there is a map showing where they are in Africa.

**Website:** <https://africahubs.crowdmap.com/#>

And there are 18 in Latin America too. **Website:** <http://thenextweb.com/la/2012/08/11/18-latin-american-tech-hubs-know/>

## **The SEED Initiative**

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries.

**Website:** <http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&l=en>

## **The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award**

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Five pioneers will receive US \$50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways.

**Website:** <http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php>

## **Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition**

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition'.

**Website:** [www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd](http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd)

### **Challenge**

InnoCentive ([www.innocentive.com/](http://www.innocentive.com/)) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US \$100,000. They use rigorous intellectual property protection so ideas are not stolen without credit being given to the inventor. **Website:** [www.rockfound.org/about\\_us/news/2007/0720first\\_seeker.shtml](http://www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml)

### **Video**

**Forum for the Future:** Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony. **Website:** <http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96>

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to [developmentchallenges@googlemail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com).

### **2012**

#### **August**

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to [developmentchallenges@googlemail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com).

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Research for Development**

Bern, Switzerland (20-22 August 2012)

Participants in the conference are expected to bring in multiple national and international perspectives on development-oriented research, policy dialogue, and practice aiming towards global transformation. The conference will have a strong focus on the global South; but the role of the global North will also be addressed. Further emphasis will be given to discussing research policy and funding in the North, including in Switzerland. In addition, the conference will take into account and critically review the outcomes of the international 'Planet under Pressure' science conference (London in March 2012) and Rio+20 (Rio de Janeiro in June 2012), and discuss the consequences of these global events for research partnerships.

**Website:** <http://www.icrd.ch/>

#### **World Water Week**

Stockholm, Sweden (26-31 August 2012)

Each year the World Water Week addresses a particular theme to enable a deeper examination of a specific water-related topic. While not all events during the week relate to the overall theme, the workshops driven by the Scientific Programme Committee and many seminars and side events do focus on various aspects of the theme. The current niche for 2009-2012 is "Responding to Global Changes", which looks at the potential and necessary responses in water policy, management and development to address pervasive and increasingly impacting global changes.

**Website:** <http://www.worldwaterweek.org/>



## September

### **World Urban Forum 6**

Naples, Italy (1-7 September 2012)

Organised jointly by UN-Habitat, the Government of Italy, the Campania Region and the City of Naples, the theme for this year's meeting is The Urban Future. Over 3,000 participants from 114 countries have already registered for the premier conference on cities and urban issues.

**Website:** <http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=672>

### **The Second Global Conference on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change**

Ha Noi, Vietnam (3-7 September 2012)

Co-organized by Viet Nam and the Netherlands, in close collaboration with other partners, including FAO and the World Bank, the conference will allow global leaders, practitioners, scientists, civil society and the private sector to share experiences and demonstrate how early action on Climate-Smart Agriculture can act as a driver of green growth.

**Website:** <http://www.afcconference.com/background-note>

### **USAID/World Customs Organization Trade Facilitation Conference**

Johannesburg, South Africa (10-11 September 2012)

The purpose of this conference, "**21st Century Trade Facilitation Tools: Increasing International Competitiveness**", is to share proven trade facilitation tools (national single window, customs connectivity, coordinated border management and one stop border posts) and programs that are being used with positive results by countries around the globe to increase their competitiveness and their Doing Business/Trading Across Border Indices with the view of encouraging more countries in Southern Africa to understand and benefit from these tools.

**Website:** <http://tinyurl.com/ctc2wsu>

### **6<sup>th</sup> International Hybrid Rice Symposium**

Hyderabad, India (10-12 September 2012)

The symposium aims to create a discussion platform that tackles the issue of increasing rice yields to adapt to the worlds' increasing demand for rice. The symposium will discuss the topics: Hybrid Rice Development; Hybrid Rice Seed Production; Applications of Molecular Technology; Crop and Resource Management, and; Hybrid Rice Economics.

**Website:** <http://hybrid-rice.org/>

### **The World of Rural Co-operation International Roundtable Event - How Rural Co-operative Enterprises Build a Better World**

Dublin, Ireland (11-12 September 2012)

This invitation only roundtable event will be used to debate and discuss the impact and future of rural co-operation worldwide. This prestigious event will be a unique opportunity to share knowledge and expertise with rural co-operators from across the world to inform the development of a plan for the future development of rural co-operatives worldwide.

**Website:** <http://www.rural2012.coop/>

### **Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2012**

Tianjin, People's Republic of China (11-13 September 2012)

The Annual Meeting of the New Champions is the foremost global business gathering in Asia. After five years, it is widely known as the Summer Davos – reflecting the "spirit of Davos" that for more than four decades has meant

openness, collegiality and frank, yet friendly, exchange among leaders from business, government, academia, civil society and media.

**Website:** <http://www.weforum.org/events/annual-meeting-new-champions-2012>

### **Making Cents' 2012 Global Youth Economic Opportunities Conference**

Washington, D.C., USA (11-13 September 2012)

The conference will take place September 11-13, 2012 at the Inter-American Development Bank's Conference Centre in Washington, DC. Submit a proposal to share your *lessons learned, promising practices, and innovative ideas* in one or more of the following learning tracks: workforce development; adolescent girls and young women; youth-inclusive financial services and financial capabilities; monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment; and youth enterprise development

**Website:** [youtheconomicopportunities.org/how\\_to\\_submit.asp](http://youtheconomicopportunities.org/how_to_submit.asp)

### **Water Quality 2012**

HangZhou, China (19-21 September 2012)

Water Quality 2012 will consider the range of issues and challenges that affect global water quality. By providing a forum for researchers, industry, policymakers and other stakeholders, the conference will identify the key concerns and big challenges of the future.

**Website:** <http://www.accwa.net/the-project/water-quality-2012/>

### **Better World by Design Conference**

Providence, Rhode Island, USA (28-30 September 2012)

A Better World by Design is a three-day internationally acclaimed conference held annually at Brown and RISD campuses in Providence, RI that connects students, professionals, and individuals from a variety of disciplines in order to build a global community of socially conscious and passionate innovators.

**Website:** <http://www.abetterworldbydesign.com/registration/>

## **October**

### **Digital UNDivided: Focus 100**

New York, New York, USA (6 October 2012)

Connect with thought leaders, rockstar start-ups, and top brands who are using emerging technologies to engage black women. **Website:** <http://www.digitalundivided.com/>

### **ITU Telecom World 2012**

Dubai (14-18 October 2012)

ITU Telecom World 2012 is the leading platform for the global ICT community to connect, debate, network and share knowledge. Key stakeholders from across the entire industry ecosystem will come together in Dubai from 14 -18 October to harness the power of ICTs to create real change.

**Website:** <http://world2012.itu.int/>

### **4th OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policies" - Measuring Well-being and Fostering the Progress of Societies**

New Delhi, India (16-19 October 2012)

The goal of the 4th OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policies" is to assess progress in implementing the Istanbul Declaration (2007), to share results and lessons learned from work undertaken by OECD and other organizations, and to give impetus to concrete measurement programmes based on existing national and regional statistical capacities, mechanisms and tools.

**Website:** [http://www.oecd.org/document/47/0,3746,en\\_2649\\_33715\\_49312751\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/47/0,3746,en_2649_33715_49312751_1_1_1_1,00.html)

## **Innovation Africa Summit**

Cape Town, South Africa (5-7 October 2012)

The conference will feature keynote addresses from both government and private sector leaders, focusing on the transformation of African economies the realisation of advances in technology for the benefit of education and research in Africa. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to debate key issues such as developing e-skills and the knowledge economy, investment in African digital content, e-learning, improving connectivity and advancing multi-stakeholder partnerships.

**Website:** <http://africanbrains.net/ia/>

## **Integrated Soil Fertility Management in Africa: From Microbes to Markets**

Nairobi, Kenya (22-26 October 2012)

This conference assembles the strengths of several organizations and collaborative research projects committed to designing, refining and delivering potent solutions to food insecurity and agricultural resource degradation in sub-Saharan Africa.

**Website:** <http://www.isfmafrica2012.org/index.html>

## **Second Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development**

Punta del Este, Uruguay (29 October – 1 November 2012)

The GCARD II will focus on the ways to implement the tasks identified in the GCARD RoadMap with special attention to “Foresight and partnership for innovation and impact on small-holder livelihoods”.

**Website:** <http://www.egfar.org/gcard-2012>

## **2012 African Economic Conference**

Kigali, Rwanda (30 October – 2 November 2012)

The main objective of the African Economic Conference is to provide a platform for experts on Africa, both within and outside the continent, to reflect and dialogue on new directions for growth policy on the continent in order to determine the best approaches to attain the Millennium Development Goals, achieve the objectives of NEPAD and accelerate Africa’s sustainable development.

**Website:** <http://www.africaneconomicconference.org/2012/index.htm>

## **November**

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to [developmentchallenges@googlemail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com).

## **Implementing Rio+20 for Drylands and Desertification**

Sede Boqer Campus, Israel (12-15 November 2012)

The International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification (DDD) has emerged as an important global gathering of scientists, field workers, industry, government, CSOs, international development aid agencies and other stakeholders from over 60 countries concerned about land degradation in the drylands, and their sustainable use and development land degradation and development.

**Website:** <http://in.bgu.ac.il/en/desertification/Pages/default.aspx>

## **2012 COMESA Summit**

Kampala, Uganda (16 November 2012)

**Website:** <http://www.comesa.int/>

## **December**

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to [developmentchallenges@googlemail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com).

## 2013

### April

#### **Source Africa – The African Textile, Apparel and Footwear Trade Event**

Cape Town, South Africa (9-12 April 2013)

Source Africa shows off the quality, creativity, reliability, and sophistication of apparel manufacturing in Africa targeting a global audience of buyers, business leaders and service providers. SOURCE Africa will bring together business leaders and decision makers from across Africa, providing opportunities for international buyers to network with African manufacturers. By bringing Africa to the world of Sourcing, SOURCE Africa provides unparalleled resources and opportunities to buyers ... all under one roof.

**Website:** <http://www.sourceafrica.co.za/>

### October

#### **7<sup>th</sup> ECOWAS Trade Fair**

Accra, Ghana (24 October to 4 November 2013)

The regional fair, which is now a biennial event, was instituted to boost intra-community trade which presently hovers between 11 and 15 percent, and thereby contributing to the improved implementation of the ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Scheme (ETLS). It will also contribute to empowering local producers and stimulating the regional economy.

**Website:** <http://www.ecowas.int/>

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to [developmentchallenges@googlemail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com).

## AWARDS AND FUNDING

#### **The EU Contest for Young Scientists**

The European Union (EU) Contest for Young Scientists, an initiative of the European Commission, was set up to promote the ideals of co-operation and interchange between young scientists. **Website:** [http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index\\_en.cfm?pg=history](http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index_en.cfm?pg=history)

#### **2013 Innovation Prize for Africa**

The second round of the Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA), which aims to reward innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest, has been launched. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) expect the prize to promote among young African men and women in the pursuit of science, technology and engineering careers and business applications. The aims are to:

- Mobilize leaders from all sectors to fuel African innovation;
- Promote innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest through the competition;
- Promote science, technology and engineering as rewarding, exciting and noble career options among the youth in Africa by profiling success applicants; and
- Encourage entrepreneurs, innovators, funding bodies and business development service providers to exchange ideas and explore innovative business opportunities.

**Website:** [innovationPrizeForAfrica.org](http://innovationPrizeForAfrica.org)

#### **World Summit Youth Award**

The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals. **Website:** [www.youthaward.org](http://www.youthaward.org)

#### **Grand Challenges Canada: Request for Proposals**

Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It's called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world. The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed \$225 million CAD over five years to the Development

Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges. For the Request for Proposals:

**Website:** [http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request for Proposals-Saving Brains EN.pdf](http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request_for_Proposals-Saving_Brains_EN.pdf)

### **Zayad Future Energy Prize**

The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the \$2.2 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, managed by [Masdar](#) in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability.

**Website:** [www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/](http://www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/)

### **Philips Liveable Cities Award**

Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for "simple solutions" that will improve people's health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.

**Website:** <http://www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award>

### **Piramal Foundation in India**

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India's rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India's health-care crisis.

**Website:** [www.piramalprize.org](http://www.piramalprize.org)

### **Special Award for South-South Transfer**

The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative. The winning practice receives US \$15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries.

**Website:** [www.southsouthexpo.org](http://www.southsouthexpo.org)

### **South-South Experience Exchange Facility**

Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi-donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa.

**Website:** [www.southsouthcases.info](http://www.southsouthcases.info)

### **African Writers Fund**

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

**Website:** [http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr](http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr)

### **Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme**

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan

[Click here for more information](#)

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### **PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana**

The University of Ghana ([www.ug.edu.gh](http://www.ug.edu.gh)) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution ([www.agra-alliance.org](http://www.agra-alliance.org)) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme. **Website:** [www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10](http://www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10)

### **Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition**

Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

**Website:** <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in/>

## TRAINING AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market:** **Website:** [www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php](http://www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php)

### **Global Knowledge Initiative**

The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."

**Website:** [www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/](http://www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/)

### **ExportHelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market**

The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU's preferential trade regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.

**Website:** <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>

### **Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website**

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

**Website:** [www.devex.org](http://www.devex.org)

### **Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans**

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, [Africancareerguidance.com](http://Africancareerguidance.com) is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organization that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

**Website:** [www.africancareerguidance.com](http://www.africancareerguidance.com)

### **African Diaspora Skills Database**

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

**Website:** [www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database](http://www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database)

### **Aid Workers Network (AWN)**

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

**Website:** [www.aidworkers.net](http://www.aidworkers.net)

### **Bizzlounge**

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

**Website:**  
<http://bizzlounge.com>

### **Business Action for Africa**

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organizations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

**Website:** <http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com>

### **Business Fights Poverty**

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

**Website:** <http://businessfightspovetry.ning.com>

### **Business in Development Network (BiD)**

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

**Website:** [www.bidnetwork.org](http://www.bidnetwork.org)

### **Zunia**

By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.

**Website:** [www.zunia.org](http://www.zunia.org)



### **Catalogue of Poverty Networks**

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organizations.

**Website:** [www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do)

### **Connections for Development (CfD)**

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organization committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organizations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively "our world".

**Website:** [www.cfdnetwork.co.uk](http://www.cfdnetwork.co.uk)

### **Development Crossing**

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

**Website:** [www.developmentcrossing.com](http://www.developmentcrossing.com)

### **DevelopmentAid.org**

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

**Website:** [www.developmentaid.org](http://www.developmentaid.org)

### **Zunia.org**

Zunia.org, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

**Website:** <http://topics.developmentgateway.org>

### **Diaspora African Forum**

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

**Website:** [www.diasporafricanforum.org](http://www.diasporafricanforum.org)

### **Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship**

Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world. Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on colour markers to learn more about each country.

**Website:** <http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8>